GENERAL PERMIT 1



DRCC #: 21-1931B **DATE:** July 1, 2021

PROJECT NAME: NJDOT Bridge at Landing Lane over Delaware and Raritan Canal

Latest Submission Received: June 4, 2021

Applicant:

New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) 951 Parkway Avenue Ewing, NJ 08625 Brendan.Brock@dot.nj.gov

Project Location:

Road	Municipality	County	Block(s)	Lot(s)
Landing Lane	New Brunswick	Middlesex	103.09	1.01,
(Middlesex County Route No. 609)	City			1.02

Jurisdictional Determination:

Zone A	Minor	Governmental	

Documents Received: Application received June 4, 2021; NJDOT COMBIS Priority Repair Form (9 pages) June 17, 2018; Deck Replacement Details (3 sheets) dated June 2021, prepared by Buchart & Horn.

The Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission has reviewed the referenced application for a General Permit authorization pursuant to the requirements of the Regulations for the Review of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park at N.J.A.C. 7:45-6.2. The proposed project is authorized by General Permit No. 1, which authorizes projects in Zone A that are necessary to carry out the repair, rehabilitation, maintenance or reconstruction of a structure, road, utility line, or stormwater management measure or basin lawfully existing prior to January 1980 or approved under this Chapter by the Commission.

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The project authorized under this general permit shall not be put to any use other than as specified in any approval authorizing its original construction. Projects authorized under the general permit shall not visibly change, expand, widen or deepen the feature, and shall not deviate from any plans of any prior project approvals, except for minor deviations due to changes in materials or construction techniques. Any such deviations must be shown as necessary to fulfill the purpose of the proposed project and must be consistent with the Master Plan.

Description of the authorized project: NJDOT proposes to conduct in-kind repairs on Structure No. 3000-169, the bridge which conveys Landing Lane over the Delaware and Raritan Canal in the City of New Brunswick, Middlesex County and within Commission Review Zone A. The project area is generally located north of the intersection of Landing Lane and George Street (Middlesex County Route No. 672), and the area is bounded by residential neighborhoods of single-family dwellings and large apartment buildings to the south. The Raritan River and Piscataway Township lie to the north of the project area, and the immediate area consists largely of wooded parkland.



Portions of the park to either side of the bridge which conveys Landing Lane over the Raritan River contain the remains of Raritan Landing, an important 18th century commercial and trade center that went into terminal decline following the construction of the Delaware and Raritan Canal.

The project is also located in the Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District, which encompasses the canal bed and all structures within 300 feet of the centerline of the canal. Nearby historic resources include the original canal spillway, and remains of the two former-bridgetender's houses and station.

The present structure which spans the canal is pony/though plate steel girder cantilever pivot bridge, probably constructed following significant river flooding in 1920 during the

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period of the Pennsylvania Railroad's operation of the canal. The bridge is 74 feet in length and 24 feet in width, with a 5-foot timber walking path attached to the outside of the through girder on the west side of the bridge. Current clearance under the structure is 2'1". The bridge is a two-lane, two way span with a 20-foot asphalt wearing surface consisting of two 10-foot wide lanes without shoulders. There is no existing crosswalk for the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park multiuse trail, or any markings for the East Coast Greenway. The present structure, like the four other remaining movable spans over the canal, was locked in position following the closure of the canal in 1933.



The present span replaced an earlier timber A-Frame swing bridge which dated to the construction of the canal.



In 2018, the Commission issued a General Permit No. 1 for emergency repairs to the bridge which removed damaged foam structural insulated panels, cold patch and loose asphalt. NJDOT then welded a steel plate over the damaged areas and overlaid asphalt (See DRCC #18-1931A).

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The NJDOT proposes in-kind replacement of the bridge deck, repairs to floorbeams, and in-kind replacement of steel stringers. The project would also replace in-kind the existing corrugated flooring form used in the asphalt wearing surface. The NJDOT's submission indicates that no work is proposed that would disturb the historic components of the swing bridge, such as the gears or counterweights. The proposed repair would extend the operational life of the existing bridge for an additional 10 years, while a complete replacement project is devised and approved.

Permit Conditions: The project allowed by this authorization shall comply with the following conditions. Failure to comply with these conditions shall constitute a violation of the "Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park Law of 1974" (N.J.S.A. 13:13A-1 et seq.).

- 1. This authorization is valid for five years from the date of this letter unless more stringent standards are adopted by rules prior to this date.
- 2. The project as described shall be constructed and/or executed in conformity with the application.
- 3. No change in plans or specifications shall be made except with prior written permission from the Commission.
- 4. The permittee shall allow the Commission the right to inspect the construction site and shall provide the Commission with written notification seven days prior to the start of the authorized work.
- 5. A complete, legible copy of this permit shall be kept at the work site and shall be exhibited upon request of any person.
- 6. The issuance of this permit shall not be deemed to affect in any way other actions by the Commission on any future application.
- 7. The Delaware and Raritan Canal is used as a raw water source for several water companies downstream, and as such, water quality and flow shall be maintained.
- 8. If work in the canal is required, the NJDOT shall following any recommendation by the New Jersey Water Supply Authority (NJSWA) that such work shall be conducted during times of low flow through the canal.
- 9. During the work, the contractor shall ensure that no debris, soil or vegetation from the work shall fall, drop, be placed or dumped in the canal. The applicant shall ensure that a boom or other method is employed to contain any debris in the canal and remove any debris from the water.
- 10. It shall be the contractor's responsibility to ensure that all debris caused by the work is removed from the canal.
- 11. The contractor shall not pierce or puncture the clay liner or the bed of the canal.
- 12. The NJDOT shall periodically inform and update the NJSWA on the status of the work schedule for the project.
- 13. Access to the canal, multiuse trail and adjacent NJSWA buildings for NJWSA personnel shall be maintained.
- 14. Any damage to the canal caused by the contractor or any subcontractor shall be repaired to the satisfaction of the NJSWA.
- 15. The NJDOT shall obtain a Special Use Permit from the Superintendent of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park.

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- 16. The contractor shall obtain general liability insurance in the amount of \$1 million, which shall list the State of New Jersey, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Division of Parks and Forestry, the State Park Service and the NJWSA as additionally insured.
- 17. When available, NJDOT shall provide the name of the contractor undertaking the project to the Commission, NJWSA and the State Park Superintendent.
- 18. The contractor shall assume all risk of and responsibility for, and agrees to indemnify, defend and save harmless the State of New Jersey, the DEP, the NJWSA and any of their divisions, councils, bureaus, or other agencies or subdivisions, and their officers, directors, trustees, employees and contractors, as the case may be, from and against any and all claims, demands, suit, actions, recoveries, judgements, costs and expenses in connection therewith on account of the loss of life, property or injury or damage to the person, body, or property of any person or persons whatsoever, which shall arise from or result directly or indirectly from work performed in connection with this permit. The indemnification obligation is not limited by, but is in addition to, the insurance obligation contained in this permit.

Expiration Date: July 1, 2026.

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Appeal of Decision: In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:45-7.1, any person who is aggrieved by this decision may request a hearing within 30 days of the date of decision.

If you have any questions regarding this authorization, please contact the Commission at (609) 397-2000 and reference the above file number.

Sincerely,

John Hutchison
Executive Director

c. Mike Sellar, Facility Manager, Delaware & Raritan Canal, NJSWA Julie Shelley, Property & Permit Administrator, NJWSA Patricia Kallesser, Superintendent, Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park Jesse West-Rosenthal, Ph.D., Historic Preservation Specialist 2, DEP/SHPO